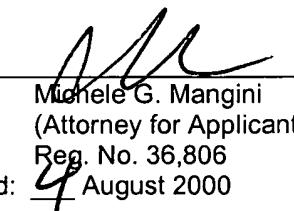


Applicants also claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120 of U.S. Application No. 09/411,552 filed 4 October 1999.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections in the Office Action are now moot in view of the claims of the CIP in their present form. Applicants further submit that these claims are in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 4 August 2000

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